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AN AMERICAN fisherman

ESTABLISHED 1947

In This Issue . . .

- ★ **Insurance Problems on Fishing Boats**
- ★ **Congressional Activities**
- ★ **Fishery Education and Training**

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Working Toward a . . .

BIGGER AND BETTER FISHERY MARKET

MOST fishery interests agree that things are looking up for the future. Some of our most troublesome problems are being recognized and helpful solutions searched out—by both business and government authorities. You can read about them on other pages in this magazine.

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Are Directed to the Improvement and Prosperity

of the Tuna Industry

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AMERICAN TUNABOAT ASSOCIATION

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Seafood Lacking on Many Menus

Public eating places are still a fertile field for exploration by those who deal in fish and shellfish, a survey being conducted by the Fish and Wildlife Service indicates. According to a preliminary report released by John L. Farley, Director of FWS, nearly half of the various types of public eating places in the United States served no fish or shellfish in 1955.

The survey indicates that while more than 100,000 restaurants and cafeterias in this country did serve fish or shellfish in 1955, there were more than 20,000 which did not. A high percentage of the drug stores having soda fountains, 25,260 out of the 33,771 in the country did not serve fish during the year. Under the classification listing "other," which includes various drinking places which serve food, catering establishments, lunch counters and refreshment stands, there were 134,000 out of 206,000, or 65%, which did not serve seafood of any description during the past year.

The west and the south accounted for many of the restaurants which did not serve seafood last year but the miscellaneous eating places not serving fish seemed to be distributed fairly evenly around the Nation.

The survey is being financed by funds made available by the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act, which is designed to help the fishing industry in production and marketing. The purpose of the study is to indicate areas in which the fishing industry might work to increaes its market demand.

Shrimp Sales Increased

Shrimp sales increased 84% in a dozen retail stores participating in a recent merchandising experiment conducted by the Fish and Wildlife Service. A modest increase in the variety of shrimp products available to the shopper and some "point-of-sale" advertising material brought better sales in neighborhood food stores.

While this limited merchandising experiment does not solve all marketing problems of the shrimp industry, however, it definitely shows the possibility of enlarging shrimp markets by (a) offering to the prospective customer in a neighborhood food store a greater variety of shrimp products and package sizes and (b) by using "point-of-sale" advertising material.

Fisheries Institute Meetin

The Ninth Annual Meeting of t Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Ins tute will be held in Nassau, Baham November 26 to 30. Arrangemen have been made with the famous Br ish Colonial Hotel for the Institu to have the exclusive use of the ho during the meeting at the low rates $6.00 per day for a single room a $8.00 per day ($4.00 per perso for double occupancy.

The meeting has been arranged Nassau following numerous reques and it is expected that a great ma people will take advantage of t opportunity to visit the interesti British colony of the Bahamas at t low convention rates which we a able to get. No passports are requir for American citizens and the c rency exchange rates are favorab

The Gulf and Caribbean Fisher Institute is sponsored by The Mari Laboratory of the University of M ami, with the cooperation of the U Fish and Wildlife Service and oth organizations. There is no form membership, and any interested p son is cordially invited to the me ing. The Executive Secretary is C. Idyll, University of Miami, Co Gables 34, Florida.

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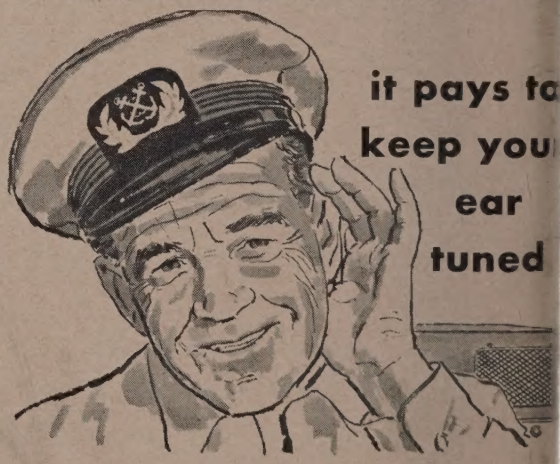

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BRIANT SANDO—Editor and Publisher

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Busco-Nestor Studios

VOL. 10 - No. 9
APRIL
1956

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About This Issue . . .

DATES for the big event of the year in this industry, National Tuna Week, have been set for September 13 to 23, 1956 . . . see page 13. This makes for a close tie-in on dates with the annual Fishermen's Fiesta at San Pedro . . . so things will really be jumpin' in September.

*

Just ahead of those dates will come the Republican national convention in the Cow Palace, San Francisco . . . and between then and the November elections this state will be a major battleground for votes for both parties. With its recent growth California is a big boy now . . . and swings enough electoral votes to be decisive one way or the other. Election trends and fisheries legislation are covered in the "Report from Washington" starting on page 7.

*

A recent copy of the "Tunaboat Insurance Bulletin" put out by the A. L. Brosio Company in San Diego lists 70 tuna clippers lost during the 10 years 1946 through 1955, excluding all partial losses and omitting vessels of less than 60 feet registered length, purse seiners and others not classified as conventional clippers. This proves the importance to the industry of the article, "Insurance Problems on Fishing Boats," starting on page 10 . . . and additional insurance statistics on page 11.

...ando Publications: PAN AMERICAN FISHERMAN • FRUIT & VEGETABLE REVIEW • MOTOR WEST

...n American Fisherman is published monthly • Business and executive offices—Orange Savings Building, Orange, California, telephone KEllogg 8-5441. ...stmaster: Form 3579 requested. Subscription rates in the United States and possessions, one year $3.00; two years $5.00; five years $10.00. Canada $4.00 per ...r; all other countries $5.00 per year. Current copies 50c each; back numbers $1.00 each when available. In case of change of address, subscribers are ...quested to notify both the Post Office and us, and allow one month for change to take effect. Entered as second class matter March 12, 1953, at the Post ...fice at Orange, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Printed in U.S.A.

Russia Warns Japan on Salmon Fishing

Orders broadcast from Moscow last month, with the annual North Pacific salmon fishing season at hand, created a great stir in Japanese fishing industry circles, as follows:

1. The Soviet Council of Ministers considered the problems of propagation and protection of the salmon of the Far East.

2. In recent years the quantity of salmon has rapidly declined, and this is the result of the depredatory fishing carried on by the Japanese fishing companies in areas on the migratory paths of the salmon. According to an investigation made by the Soviet authorities last year, only 10 to 15% of the number of fish necessary for adequate propagation are ascending the streams of the Okhotsk and Kamchatka areas. This situation menaces the economy of the Soviet coastal regions, and indicates that part of the Japanese fishing industry does not consider the proper interests of the Soviet Union.

3. Therefore, the Soviet Council of Ministers has ordered the Ministry of Fisheries and other bodies to draft emergency measures to halt the capture of salmon on their way to the spawning grounds, until a proper international agreement for the protection of the salmon and the management of the salmon fishery is concluded.

Tagged Tuna Recovered

Dr. Albert L. Tester, director of the Pacific Oceanic Fisheries Investigations laboratory in Honolulu, has announced two recent recoveries of tagged tuna, one an albacore and the other an aku (skipjack), which help understand the migration and growth of these fish.

An albacore which was tagged by the POFI research vessel, the *John R. Manning*, on October 5, 1954, at a point 1,300 miles north of the Hawaiian Islands was recaptured by Japanese fishermen in the coastal waters of Japan. After 471 days of freedom the albacore, bearing a plastic tube tag, was recaptured on January 19, 1956, about 75 miles northeast of the entrance to Tokyo Bay.

This albacore was re-taken at a point 2,670 miles from the point of release, but of course the exact pattern of migration between these two points is not known. Nevertheless this recovery is added evidence that the albacore in the North Pacific belong to one single population which makes extensive trans-Pacific migrations between the west coast of America and Japan. It was reported by Dr. Tester that the Japanese have also recovered at least four albacore which were tagged on the West Coast by the California Department of Fish and Game.

This latest recovery also gave correct evidence on the rate of growth of the albacore. When tagged the fish weighed 15 pounds; at recapture it had grown to 40 pounds.

Here, in Hawaiian waters an aku after carrying its tag around for 2 days, was recaptured by the sampan *Neptune*. This was the longest period between release and recapture of any of the aku recoveries thus far. The fish was tagged and released from the fishery research vessel, the *Charles H. Gilbert*, on May 25, 19[illegible] a few miles off Barbers Point from a school in which the fish averaged 7 pounds in weight. It weighed 8 pounds when re-taken on February 1, 1956, a few miles off Makapuu Point, 30 miles from its point of release.

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Report from **Washington**

Items Gleaned from the Nation's Capital

CH TALK, LITTLE ACTION.--The battle of the fisheries industry still con-
nues here in Congress and in various committee hearings. The latter have
etty well covered all fishery legislation pending at this time . . .
d that includes a variety of subjects.

Hearings were held last month by a sub-committee on Merchant
rine and Fisheries of the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Com-
ttee. Among the bills considered were S. 3275 and S. 3339, introduced
intly by Senators Kuchel of California and Magnuson of Washington.

One feature of these bills on which the industry itself seems to
ld divergent views is that of setting up a new Fisheries Commission,
th definite authority and responsibilities, instead of being a part of
e Fish and Wildlife Service which in turn is just a division of the
terior Department.

--o--

T IN AGREEMENT.--The Departments of State, Interior and Commerce all
ve turned thumbs down on the two bills mentioned above. It was to be
pected that the Interior Department naturally would object to losing one
its important branches, but the other two Departments were expected
at least remain neutral.

Most damaging blow of all suffered by the Magnuson-Kuchel bills
s the statement included in all three adverse reports that "the pro-
sed legislation is not in accord with the program of the President."
at pretty well cooks its goose, and will lead to some compromise meas-
es. These are now being discussed under cover here, but not yet defi-
te enough for publication.

--o--

E SENATOR SPEAKS.--Senator Magnuson's statement, issued promptly after
e above situation developed, said he was "confident President Eisen-
wer's advisors have not given him complete information about the bills
. . which Senator Kuchel and I have worked out to assist our domestic
shing industry."

He continued that there was no pride of authorship involved but
at he and Senator Kuchel were "seeking the advice and cooperation of
e fishing industry to the end that beneficial legislation might be
acted."

Senators Magnuson and Kuchel both have repeatedly stated that they

are striving for a bill which will be acceptable to the industry and to the Congress and the administration . . . and which they hope will be adopted before the present session of the Congress adjourns--probably in July or early August, so the legislators can get back home and build up their political fences for the fall elections.

WHAT THE WITNESSES WANT.--Witnesses at the various fishery hearings have expressed some divergent views, depending upon their own particular interests in the subjects under discussion . . . but an impartial viewpoint of the whole situation would sum it up about like this:

Most of the witnesses approve the idea of separating Fisheries fro the Wildlife functions; they heartily endorse upgrading the Fisheries to a higher level in Government, either through the creation of an Assistant Secretary for Fisheries or by the establishment of a Fisheries Commission. There is not much objection to the transfer of fishery functions to the proposed agency; there is general agreement on the need for a clea statement on a national fishery policy.

However, there was considerable opposition by industry witnesses to S. 3339 which proposes a Fisheries Stabilization Corporation; this might be subject to abuses which would offset the good it would do.

--o--

UP GOES DUTY ON TUNA CANNED IN BRINE.--President Eisenhower, exercising his prerogative as the chief executive, last month issued a proclamation "providing that the duty on imports of tuna canned in brine shall automatically increase from 12½ per cent to 25 per cent ad valorem whenever in any year such imports exceed 20 per cent of the previous year's U.S. pack of canned tuna of all varieties.

In any calendar year the increased duty would apply only to those imports in excess of the stated 20 per cent and only for the remainder of that year. Imports in any year up to the 20 per cent breakpoint would be subject to the 12½ per cent ad valorem rate. Because the President's proc lamation will become effective on April 14, 1956, it provides that the increased rate of duty will apply this year if and when imports of tuna canned in brine after the April 14 date exceed 15 per cent of last year domestic pack of canned tuna.

In the 1955 trade agreement negotiations involving Japan's accession to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the United States agreed not to increase the existing rate of 12½ per cent ad valorem applying to imports of tuna canned in brine, subject to the reservation of a right to impose a higher rate of duty on imports in any calendar year in excess of 20 per cent of the domestic pack of canned tuna during the preceding year. This reservation has now been invoked. The 1954 and 1955 domestic tuna packs were approximately 213 million pounds and 192 million pounds, respectively; and the 1955 imports of canned tuna in brine were approximately 35 million pounds. Therefore, because annual

(Continued on page)

OCATES OF FISHERIES LEGISLATION.—Top row, left to right: John J. Flynt, Jr. Ga.); James C. Davis (D-Ga.); Bob Wilson (R-Calif.); Wint Smith (R-Kansas); James T. erson (R-Conn.); W. J. Bryan Dorn (D-S.C.). Bottom row seated, left to right: Cleveland ailey (D-W.Va.); Henderson Lanham (D-Ga.); James B. Utt (R-Calif.).

ongressional Activities

HE bipartisan approach to foreign rade, which 13 members of Con- ss recently launched on the floor he House, is gaining "steady sup- t," according to the Congressman led the first drive toward legis- on to protect American economy security against unrestrained im- ts. Rep. Cleveland M. Bailey (D- Va.) said that he has received rances of "unqualified backing" m representatives of "every geo- phical area and almost all fields agriculture and industry."

Most of the statements were in sup- t of a bill introduced by Rep. nderson Lanham (D-Ga.) to per- maximum expansion of trade h other countries so long as it s not bring depressed farm prices unemployment to the U.S.

Rep. Bob Wilson, of California's h District, explained that quota itation legislation is especially ded to protect the American fish- industry, pointing out that the erican clipper fleet has recently fered a decrease of more than % because of competition from ported tuna.

While this decline has continued this country, Japan has increased fleet and is now in position to lict further damage on the U.S. dustry, Congressman Wilson de- red.

"This she can do because low labor ndards give her a decided advan- e," the California representative ntinued. "It is the story familiar to industries that find themselves in competition with low-wage areas of the world."

Congressman Wilson warned against permitting the State Department to continue its "encoachment" upon congressional petitions in the field of foreign affairs. He particularly recommended against adoption of the proposal to bring the U.S. into the Organization for Trade Cooperation, a medium through which U.S. markets would be further opened to foreign competition without regard to the impact of U.S. industry and labor."

In introducing a measure identical to the Lanham bill, Congressman Wilson explained that import quota legislation offers the "best way out of our difficulty." Then he said:

"Such a bill, if passed, would do no violence to existing trade. True enough, it would stop imports from taking over the market; but it would not prevent imports from growing with an expanded market. It would, indeed, prevent imports from absorbing all the expansion, much of which is usually the result of costly promotional work of the domestic industry; but it would not prevent their sound growth."

Congressman Wilson explained that his bill provides flexibility to meet any possible failure of domestic supply, and at the same time would prevent a dangerous surplus from developing. In conclusion, he asked his colleagues for introduction of his measure and rejection of the OTC proposal. *

"FISHERAMA" PROVES POPULAR

A fish and seafood "Fisherama" sale drew crowds and build new traffic, when recently staged in five locations of Crawford's Shopping Centers in Southern California.

Fisherama advertising in local newspapers featured tuna, salmon, and a wide selection of fresh seafood including lobsters, shrimp, crabs, bass, halibut, and yellowtail.

The Fisherama theme set by the advertisements was carried out inside the stores with extensive point of sale material and mass displays of fish and related items. Each store manager was responsible for his own displays, and all used as much available point of sale material as was available from packers and wholesalers, including how-to-use and recipe material.

The displays of fish and seafood were decorated with parsley and lemon to increase appetite appeal; and related items included cocktail sauces, tarter sauces, and others.

As an experiment, and to emphasize the extremely wide choice of seafoods available at the Fisherama, even baby octopus and squid were displayed. Surprisingly, these items were sellouts!

According to Forrest Thomas, who heads the meat department for the Crawford group, fish volume was more than doubled. Their normal fish volume amounts to four to four and a half per cent of the meat department total. During the Fisherama promotion, this percentage ran 11 to 12 per cent.

Thomas believes that, while public interest in fish is on the increase due to the nutritional advantages of fish as well as family budget economy, there is considerable need for consumer education in how to handle and prepare the various varieties of seafood available. Next time he expects to employ a hostess in the department to give advice and answer questions regarding the items on display.

The Southern California Fisheries Association points this promotion out as an excellent example of what can be done in the merchandising of fish . . . also a good way to tie in with the publicity program of the Association to increase the per capita consumption of fish.

Insurance Problems on Fishing Boat

COMMERCIAL fishing vessel insurance problems center around the problem of safety at sea as viewed from the standpoints of the fishing vessel owner wanting to be insured and of the insurance company being asked to supply the insurance.

The insurability of a commercial fishing vessel depends not only on the seaworthiness of the vessel but also on whether or not the crew is "seaworthy." Such considerations are involved as the design and structure of hulls, the installation and maintenance of equipment for safe navigation, for fire fighting and lifesaving, the conduct and qualifications of the crew, etc.

In recent years the experience of insurance companies in their commercial fishing vessel business has been discouraging and caused many of them to get out of the market and others to keep out. Rising costs have beset the fishing industry as regards construction of vessels, repairs to vessel, fishing gear and nets, fuel, wages to crew, etc.

Furthermore, court awards in personal injury claims have sharply increased. Both the rise in costs and the increase in awards are reflected in the increased claims that insurance companies have been called upon to pay.

The few insurance companies which have remained in the market have reportedly raised their premiums, increased the use of deductibles, and imposed more restrictive coverage. The vessel owners affected are complaining that the insurance coverage has become inadequate and its cost prohibitively expensive.

By JEROME SACHS

Director, Insurance Staff, Bureau of Foreign Commerce, U.S. Dept. of Commerce

This general situation of restricted coverage and increased insurance cost to the vessel owners, and of increasing reluctance on the part of insurance companies to provide the needed protection, has become acute within the fishing industry, both from an economic and a humanitarian standpoint.

The Federal Government, as part of its program of aiding the American fishing industry through research and development, is financing a nationwide survey of the problem . . . covering the reasons why many commercial fishing vessels can no longer obtain insurance on their operations at rates they consider reasonable in terms of their total operating costs, their volume of sales, etc. This survey will not be completed until 1957.

Statistics on commercial fishing insurance are not readily obtainable because, among other reasons, the surance companies have not se rated out for publication the fish vessel figures from their marine ures generally. Nevertheless, I h been able to obtain some insura company figures which shed light the marine insurance industry's l of enthusiasm for the fishing ve business overall.

Underwriting losses on menha fishing vessels over the last few y have been clearly better than losses suffered on other classes fishing vessel. In the accident vention field, compared to o classes of fishing vessels, menha vessel owners have been doing a g job.

Some figures dug out of Gov ment records show that one-fourt one-third of all of the more im tant cases of assistance rendered Coast Guard operational units to types of vessels in all sizes are mated to have involved assistanc commercial fishing vessels. Al one-half of the fishing vessels sisted by the Coast Guard in were above 30 tons burden or al 40 feet in length.

What are the causes of accid among commercial fishing vess Government reports are not s ciently detailed to determine exact causes of the founder strandings, fires, collisions, et rough estimate of the situation p a range of about one-fourth to

l of the accidents as due to unde-
ined causes; somewhat less than
fourth of the causes are attrib-
to heavy weather; a range of
t one-half to two-thirds are at-
uted to personnel and material
ures.

ow does the loss-of-life rate
ng fishing vessels compare with
loss-of-life rates in other occupa-
s? In the table herewith the fig-
, should be accepted as estimates
d on the best available informa-
. . furnished by the Bureau of
or Statistics and the Coast Guard.

ustry	*Loss of Life per Total Employed*
ermen on com-	
ercial vessels	1/1,000
men on inspected	
essels	1/1,800
ing (industry wide)	1/1,100
l mining	1/760
ging	1/680
struction workers....	1/1,300
icultural workers....	1/1,700
el mill workers.....	1/6,800
nufacturing workers	1/8,400

ety Programs Help

The table above shows that where
phasis has been placed on safety
grams, as it has been in the large
ustrial organizations, loss of life
be held down even though a par-
ilar operation may be of a haz-
ous nature. Other factors contrib-
ng to the high loss of life on com-
rcial fishing vessels come readily
mind such as the inaccessibility
medical help on sea, etc.

So far as I have been able to dis-
er, what remains of a fishing ves-
Hull market for the whole East
ast, Gulf and Pacific Coast, is
ng supplied by four insurance
npanies. A number of other insur-
ce companies have been in and out
the business during the last few
rs because of discouraging re-
ts.

Some insurance companies have
ntinued to supply the coverage in
cific cases, despite their reluctance
do so. However, the granting of
verage in such cases is to be re-
rded as testimony to the skill and
ourcefulness of the brokers repre-
nting the vessel owners.

The operations of insurance com-
nies are regulated by the sepa-
te states. However, determining the
ount of premium to charge in the
se of marine insurance is not regu-
ted but is left to the insurance com-
nies themselves.

There is no manual of rates, no statistical rating plan based on a classification or register of fishing vessel risks, to which one can refer to find out what the premium rate will be for a vessel in accordance with class, age, and physical characteristics. It is a matter of negotiation between the vessel owner's broker and the insurance company. In fixing the premium rate, what considerations are taken into account?

First the insurance company considers its general experience with regard to the class of vessel which the insurance is to cover, as well as the particular area or areas in which the applicant vessel owner will be doing his fishing. Some insurance companies, with their losses in recent years in mind, are now insisting on a complete physical survey of the vessel by a marine surveyor. The survey made also covers navigation, fire fighting and lifesaving equipment.

The vessel owner's loss record and standing are also taken into consideration. The bad experience of recent years has caused some insurance companies to include a check on the financial standing of the vessel owner; also, whether the venture has been making money, whether the vessel owner is paying his maintenance bills on a current basis, how the vessel is mortgaged, etc. These inquiries sometimes include checking on the general reputation of the operating personnel.

Some insurance companies give rate deductions to a fleet based on the number of vessels in the fleet. Other insurance companies do not give so-called fleet credits right off but prefer to let a fleet earn such credits by good experience.

The character, habits, and mental attitude of the vessel owner and crew

(Continued on page 20)

HULL INSURANCE EXPERIENCE

The figures which follow, made available by one insurance company, are a recapitulation of Hull fishing vessel statistics covering a 9-year period (1946-1954).

Year	Gross Premiums Less Returns	Losses Paid Less Salvage	Ratio
1946	307,848	176,532	57%
1947	358,028	268,398	70%
1948	592,970	322,589	54%
1949	637,929	562,150	88%
1950	706,609	417,603	58%
1951	833,447	466,871	56%
1952	601,696	816,884	135%
1953	629,057	526,045	83%
1954	633,523	511,840	80%

The losses estimated and still outstanding and unpaid as of December 31, 1954, were reported to be $320,847. If one adds this loss reserve figure to the losses actually paid out during 1954 amounting to $511,840, the ratio of losses (incurred) to premiums is 131%.

* * *

PROTECTION AND INDEMNITY INSURANCE

The figures which follow, made available by an insurance company, are a recapitulation of P&I fishing vessel statistics covering a 5-year period (1950-1954).

Year	Gross Premiums Less Returns	Losses Paid Less Salvage	Ratio	Reserves for Outstanding Losses as of Dec. 31, 1954	Incurred Losses	Incurred Loss Ratio
1950	85,873	88,141	102%	.....	88,141	102%
1951	89,101	69,634	79%	9,900	79,634	89%
1952	47,286	45,814	96%	23,800	69,614	149%
1953	68,250	19,797	28%	15,800	35,597	52%
1954	72,797	6,507	9%	30,900	37,407	51%
Totals	363,307	229,893	63%	80,400	310,393	85%

A Statement by

Senator Frederick G. Payne . . .

FISHERY EDUCATIO AND TRAINING

THE bill S. 2379, which I introduced on behalf of myself and 28 of my distinguished colleagues, would authorize the expenditure of Federal funds for education and training in the commercial fisheries in colleges, secondary schools, and vocational schools.

As a Senator from a state that stands as one of the leaders in fishery production, I have long been concerned about the problems presently facing the American commercial fishing industry. Many of these problems appear to stem from the lack of an adequate program for the education and training of personnel for the industry.

Fishing has been one of the key means of livelihood of our people from the first settlements. Indeed, a considerable amount of fishing was carried on in our coastal waters by various European countries before any settlements were established here. From early times the fishing industry has occupied an important role in our national economy, a role which it still occupies today as one of the principle sources of high protein food products.

Today almost every nation in the world that engages in commercial fishing to any appreciable degree has some form of government sponsored educational and training program for the industry, except the United States. In this country very little has been done in the past in this field, but recently there has been an upsurge of interest, partly stimulated by S. 2379. A recent letter to me from the acting director of the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior reads, in part, as follows:

"As you indicated in your statement of June 30, 1955, at the time of the introduction of S. 2379, the training facilities in the United States for persons interested in the commercial fisheries field, are extremely limited. It is encouraging, however, to note that there has been a number of recent developments that indicate increasing interest on the part of the schools in this field. We offer the following examples:

"Under the auspices of the University of Miami, the Fort Myers, Florida, high school is now beginning a commercial fisheries club. As yet, it is not included as a credit course in the established curriculum, but we understand that it very well may be, if it proves successful. Although the original enrollment was limited to 25 students, we understand that already 150 applications have been received.

"The University of Rhode Island, through the auspices of the Narragansett Marine Laboratory, is studying the establishment of an adult education course for the commercial fishermen of the Southern New England area. We understand it will cover such subjects as navigation, fishing methods, insurance, etc. We have no knowledge as to the anticipated starting date for this course.

"In Maine there has recently been started a 4-H fisheries club which is proving to be very successful. We understand that there is considerable possibility that this 4-H type of fishing instruction may be expanded to other fishing centers in Coastal Maine.

"Both the University of Massachusetts and the University of Alaska have demonstrated considerable interest in this field. We understand t the former now includes fishery te nological subjects in its regular c riculum.

"We have been informed that Portland, Maine, high school is c ducting a full year's course to s dents interested in subjects deal with marine life, navigation, and production and marketing of fish ies products. These courses prov scholastic recognition and credit ward graduation.

"Some work, dealing with train in commercial fisheries subjects, being done at Humboldt State Tea ers College, Arcadia, California; C gon State College, Corvallis, Oreg and the University of Miami, Mia Florida, although these courses very limited.

"This field is receiving increa recognition in other countries. example: The University of Bri Columbia, Department of Univer Extension, is again offering its s cessful Technological Fisheries Sh Course to Practical Fishermen. T course includes classes on ocean raphy, conservation, fishing gear methods, quality improvement, in national law, and finance loans insurance. Also, only recently prominent British Columbia fish industrialist donated $200,000 tow fishery and forestry research and c cation in Canada.

"Recently, announcements were ceived that schools for fisher have been established in the Net lands and in Newfoundland. T courses are sponsored by the res tive Governments and cover fish methods as well as quality and m keting improvements.

'We understand that considerable
rk has been done in other coun-
s, such as England, South Africa,
l Japan, to name only a few, but
knowledge of the nature of the
rses is extremely limited. Many of
se courses are conducted in com-
ation with Government sponsored
ritime training schools which are
te popular."

Since the end of World War II
rway has been particularly active
this field, and now has five state-
rated vocational training schools.
Trygve Braarud wrote in an Oslo
vspaper in part as follows:

'To conduct profitable fisheries is
ay a question of technical know-
w. That requires knowledge of fish-
; vessels and their motors, radio-
ephonic devices, winches, purse
nes and trawls, as well as the
chanical aspects of fish transport.
e education provided at Norway's
e vocational schools for fisher-
n is of direct use on the fishing
ks. But, perhaps almost as impor-
t, is the introduction to the natu-
basis for our fisheries. For the
hermen learn not only about motor
ding, navigation, and cooking, but
o about marine plant life, the biol-
y of the various fish species, fish
grations, and fluctuations in the
pply of fish."

Portugal also has been active in
e field of fishery education since
40. Canada makes direct grants to
e provincial universities for voca-
nal, extension, and academic train-
g. In view of the foregoing it is
ear that in so far as American com-
rcial fishing competes with other
tions, it competes at a definite dis-
vantage.

This lack of training has had seri-
s effects on all aspects of the Amer-
an commercial fishing industry,
om the actual locating and catching
fish all the way to the ultimate
le to the consumer. For years now
ur commercial fishermen have been
rking with no more than the world
nowned "Yankee ingenuity" to help
em. It is to their everlasting credit
at our commercial fishing indus-
y is in as good condition as it is
day. With the advent of modern
chnology, the development of in-
merable electronic devices, such as
e use of sonar to locate fish, it is
o much to expect effective and effi-
ent fishing operations based on
Yankee ingenuity" alone. A career
fishing today requires a special-
ed education just as much as any
her profession.

The educational problem facing the industry is really two-fold. First, there is an urgent need for training operating personnel for the industry, primarily at the secondary and vocational school level. This training should be practical fisheries training and would probably include techniques, equipment, methods of handling, processing, packing, marketing, as well as developing the ability to intelligently use valuable information developed through research in fish migration, fish characteristics, marine biology, and so on. Second, there is a critical need for college level training of competent teachers to meet the primary need, and research technicians to carry on much needed technical work.

The most nearly comparable American industry to commercial fishing is agriculture. For many years the Federal Government has contributed funds for agricultural education and training at all levels . . . for high schools, vocational schools, universities, and for extension service. As a direct result agricultural productivity and efficiency have increased sharply in the past two decades. The funds called for in S. 2379 are extremely modest when contrasted with the annual grants to agriculture for educational purposes.

If commercial fishing is to remain an integral part of our economy, and is to maintain the position of the United States in competition with the other fishing nations of the world, some action must be taken and soon. *

National Tuna Week, September 13-23, 1956

WITH the emphasis on "back to school," National Tuna Week has been moved up on the 1956 calendar. Dates this year will be from September 13 through the 23rd, according to the Tuna Research Foundation.

This 11-day period will also tie in with the Annual Fishermen's Fiesta at San Pedro, an event that receives national publicity and which will add strong impetus to the National Tuna Week drive.

Bringing the date forward to September will provide additional material in the overall publicity and promotional campaign. Sandwiches, lunch box recipes, school cafeteria menus as well as new recipes for home consumption will be spotlighted, stressing the nutritional value, and the high content of vitamin B-12 in this protein food, plus its economical value to the consumer.

Major newspapers and national food syndicate columns will be serviced with recipes, news and feature stories with accompanying photographs. National magazines and the Sunday supplements are currently being furnished with pictorial and editorial copy for their September issues. The smaller newspaper dailies and weeklies will receive special material along with the farm, labor and Negro press.

Television and radio will alert viewers and listeners to National Tuna Week with network and regional shows. The material will consist of recipes and photos on home economics and other video and radio shows as well as spot announcements and tie-ins with related foods. Also, many TV and radio stars will plug the week on their network programs.

A program for enlisting support from related food item processors is under way, and will be reflected in consumer advertising space. Member companies of the Tuna Research Foundation stress the event in both their consumer advertising in all forms of media, and member company brokers will be working individually as well as with related food representatives. *

FWS SURVEY ON SHRIMP SALES

America's liking for shrimp, as reflected in the Nation's retail food stores, is portrayed by a study made by the Fish and Wildlife Service. This study on shrimp is one of several which the Service is making, the first such survey ever made in this field.

The survey will examine the potential market for shrimp products, the efficiency of the processing plants, primary marketing methods, work practices in shrimp fishing vessels, cost of vessel operations and other matters pertaining to the production, preparation and distribution of shrimp and shrimp products.

A review of the retail sales in August and September 1955 showed that during those months Americans were buying shrimp and shrimp products at the rate of more than 13,000,000 pounds a month. Fresh and bulk-frozen shrimp were most popular, with consumers buying over the fish counter at the rate of nearly 7,000,000 pounds a month. Packaged frozen shrimp and shrimp products were next in popularity with 5,400,000 pounds coming out of the freezer display cabinets into the kitchens of the homes. Canned shrimp was third with monthly sales of 9,000,000 pounds. The total sales value was approximately $12,000,000 per month with each class averaging as follows: fresh and bulk-frozen shrimp, $5,160,000; packaged frozen shrimp and shrimp products, $5,135,000; canned shrimp, $1,365,000.

The total retail inventory at that time was only 7,980,000 pounds of shrimp of all classes. Of this 3,030,000 pounds were fresh and bulk-frozen shrimp; 2,070,000 pounds of frozen, uncooked; 590,000 pounds of cooked breaded; 1,780,000 pounds of canned shrimp, 300,000 pounds of frozen cooked breaded, and 210,000 pounds of miscellaneous shrimp products.

The retail trade segment of the survey is being done on the basis of a reliable sample of the 413,000 retail food stores in the United States.

California Fish Canners Active

MORE than $13,490,000 was paid to San Pedro and San Diego fishermen in November, December and January a study of the Southern California tuna, sardine and mackerel canneries disclosed today.

In addition the study showed approximately five million dollars was paid to cannery workers in wages during the same three month period.

William C. Morehead, president of the California Fish Canners Association declared that the study was made to determine the economic effect of the canneries upon the San Pedro and San Diego communities.

Mr. Morehead pointed out that in the three month period the study covered, the canners bought 108,600 tons of fish from the local fleets, an increase of 33,000 tons over the same period last year. This, despite the fact that inventories in canners' hands continue to be high. Imports of frozen tuna totaling only 7,300 tons, the same quantity as was handled in a like period in 1954-55.

The step-up in purchases, the association president declared, served to neutralize the disastrous effect of the cannery worker's strike last fall upon the financial welfare of the communities.

The breakdown of figures just released by the California Fish Canners Association show that 42,318 tons of tuna of all species were processed through member canneries from November 1 to January 31 compared with 29,166 tons in the same three months a year ago. 66,261 tons of sardine, anchovies and mackerel were handled in the period as against 46,470 tons in 1954 and '55.

Exact February figures are not available yet," Morehead declared, "but preliminary data indicated the canneries handled an estimated 12,300 tons of tuna as compared with the 5,900 tons in February 1955. Imports of frozen tuna dropped sharply in February from 5,300 tons in 1955 to 3,000 tons in 1956. A large part of the imported fish was albacore which is not available locally at this time of the year," he added.

Fisheries Convention

Nineteen members of Congress are scheduled to arrive April 13 in Miami on the atomic-powered submarine *Nautilus* to attend the National Fisheries Institute's 11th Annual Convention.

Two other fishery associations are holding directors' meetings in Miami Beach the same time the National Fisheries Institute is convening. They are the Shrimp Association of the Americas, of which Manuel A. Sanchez, Brownsville (Texas) Shrimp Exchange, is president, and the Southeastern Fisheries Association, Berlin E. Felton, A. & B. Fish Co., Key West, Florida, president.

"Fish Parade"

The success of last fall's Fish W points directly to a bigger and bet promotion for 1956. Plans are w under way for this year's Fish rade, to take place October through November 3.

According to Murray Wheeler, p licity director, the chief purpose the Fish Parade is to bring to attention of the buying public tremendous variety of fishery pr ucts available in retail stores, in taurants and other dining-out pl and to show homemakers how and shellfish enhance Ameri menus and dinner tables.

POFI Activities

CONSIDERABLE interest was engendered by the return of three ...a tags during February. Two were ...acore tagged on October 4, 1954, ... a point 1300 miles north of the ...waiian Islands. One of them was ...aptured during November 1955 ...out 2,000 miles west of its point ... release. The other was captured ...ing January 1956 about 75 miles ...theast of the entrance to Tokyo ...y. The latter recovery represents a ... 70-mile net movement during the ...h's 471 days of freedom. Judging ...m the data received from Japan ... fish taken off Tokyo had grown ...out 40 pounds during this period. ...complete data were received on the ...vember recapture so growth cannot ... estimated.

In Hawaiian waters, a skipjack at ...erty for 252 days after tagging was ...aptured by a commercial vessel ... February 1, 1956. The spaghetti-...e tag was lost in part, only the ...ter plastic shell remaining. It is ...imated that this fish grew about 7 pounds during its period of freedom. This estimate of growth is comparable to an estimate of skipjack growth deduced by Vernon E. Brock of the Territorial Division of Fish and Game from size-frequency analysis.

The vessels *Gilbert* and *Manning* returned to Honolulu in February after completing month-long experimental fishing and scouting operations in the Line Islands area. In general, tuna appeared to be scarce around Christmas Is land but excellent catches of medium-sized fish were made in the vicinity of Palmyra Island where the best day's catch consisted of 83 yellowfin. The best trolling was found around Kingman Reef and Washington Island. However, visual scouting showed heavy concentrations of tuna schools at the surface near Kingman Reef and Palmyra Island. About a third of these schools were composed of small skipjack. Other schools were composed of larger skipjack and skipjack and yellowfin mixtures.

Construction details of the modernized tuna longline gear that has been developed at POFI include standardization of components and inclusion of devices that practically prevent tangling of the gear. Most of these improvements are aimed at reducing the amount of labor involved in longlining so that this fishing method can be pursued profitably by American fishermen.

Booklet on Anchors

A new 16-page edition of "Anchors and Anchoring" just published tells how to figure wind and current loads for your own specific boat, how to allow for wave action loads, how to design anchor rodes and moorings, and other useful information on wind, currents, waves, holding ground, anchors and anchoring.

A copy of the book may be obtained free by writing Danforth Anchors, 2159 Alliston Way, Berkeley, California.

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If *you* have a special dream for the future—a long, wonderful holiday . . . home and farm improvements . . . your children's education . . . a feeling you can meet any sudden emergency—the Savings Bond way is the *sure* way to fulfill it. Three dollars invested in Series "E" today, turn to four in nine years and eight months! And Savings Bonds are *safer* than cash, for they may be replaced if burned, lost or stolen.

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The crop that never fails

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PAN AMERICAN FISHERMAN

(Continued from page 8)

orts of tuna canned in brine are not at present amounting to 20 per t of the domestic tuna pack, no immediate application of the increased y will follow upon the President's action.

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SHERIES EDUCATION BILL PROVES POPULAR.--Senator Payne of Maine, in com- y with 28 other Senators, introduced bill S. 2379 which has been iorsed by nearly every witness appearing before the Senate Committee Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

This bill provides for funds for more and better education of ung men in the fisheries field, and the main comment from witnesses was at the amount of the appropriation for this purpose should be increased . . as the United States is far behind most other countries in this spect.

There is a tremendous need for trained fisheries personnel in the dustry and in Government circles, both State and Federal, as well as in iversities and the numerous international fish commissions in which the ited States participates, only the University of Washington at Seattle d the University of Miami in Florida now confer a fisheries degree.

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CRETARY McKAY RESIGNS.--President Eisenhower has accepted with regret e resignation of Douglas McKay as Secretary of the Interior, effective ril 15.

Mr. McKay has announced his candidacy for nomination for the U.S. nate from the State of Oregon. It is expected that he will run on the publican ticket against the present Senator, Wayne Morse, who was ected on the Republican ticket four years ago but soon became an avowed ndependent" and now is going to campaign for re-election as a Democrat.

The White House has indicated that a successor to the Secretary of he Interior will not be announced until the time that the resignation s effecive.

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APAN AND NUCLEAR TESTS.--The United States Government has stated in a te to Japan that it "anticipates no economic losses from radioactive ntamination of marine life" arising from the forthcoming nuclear tests n the Pacific.

The note, delivered by the State Department to the Japanese mbassy in Washington, responds to requests for assurances of compensa- ion in the event of damage or economic loss and to resolutions of the apanese Diet urging suspension of nuclear tests.

The U.S. note says that the proposed nuclear tests are vital to U.S.

defense and to the defense of the free world, and that no world-wide health hazard exists from the past or planned tests. "During the forthcoming tests," the note declares, "the United States will make every effort to eliminate any danger and to minimize any inconveniences to maritime commerce and fishing."

The U.S. also offered "to consider arrangements for maximum feasible exchange of information on the effects or radiation on marine life" and to give further consideration to the question of compensation "if, after the test series has ended, any evidence is officially presented that substantial economic losses for Japan or Japanese nationals have been incurred."

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SALMON IN JAPAN.--Fishermen of Northern Japan, eager to enter the profitable northern salmon drift-net fishery but prevented from doing so by the Japanese Fisheries Agency's strict limitation on the number of licenses, are planning to try long lining for salmon on the northern grounds. Under present regulations it is considered that this would be an open unlimited fishery.

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OUTLOOK FOR THE FISHING INDUSTRY.--In a recent publication by the U.S. Department of Agriculture - "The Fifth Plate" - it was predicted that the population of the United States would increase to approximately 200 million by 1975. The publication went on to say that for every four people who sat down to a meal in 1950 there would be five in 1975, and that in the 25 year period, and with 40 million more people, an increase of 25%, 5½ billion more pounds of meat, 30 million more pounds of milk and 14.7 billion more eggs would be needed to feed these additional people.

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WHERE DO FISH AND SHELLFISH STAND?--Based on figures obtained from the Fish and Wildlife Service, the domestic production in 1950 was 4.885 billion pounds (round basis). (Record catch was 4.9 billion pounds in 1941) Imports in 1950 amounted to about 1.767 billion pounds (round basis). Domestic production and imports, therefore, totaled 6.652 billion pounds (round basis) so that, by 1975, with a population of 200 million, an increase of 40 million over 1950, we would need an additional 1.663 billion pounds (round basis) of fish and shellfish to satisfy the nation's requirements.

These figures include all fish and shellfish (edible and inedible On an edible, round weight basis, the domestic production in 1950 was 3.513 billion pounds, which, together with 1.128 billion pounds ofimport totals 4.641 billion pounds. Therefore, on an edible, round weight basis by 1975 we would, need an additional 1.2 billion pounds of domestic production and imports to satisfy our nation's edible fish and shellfish requirements.

The GLOBE

An International News File Compiled from FOREIGN REPORTS

Alaska.—Extensive revisions of the annual commercial fishing regulations for the 1956 season in Alaska were announced. The five most important changes are: (1), Registration and limitation of fishing boats to one operating area to be selected by the operator; (2), Control of fishing on the high seas off the Alaska coast by United States nationals; (3), Limitation on the days per week of fishing in the Bristol Bay area, depending upon the number of units of gear operating; (4) Temporary closure during 1956 of 15 trap sites in the Prince William Sound area; and (5), Continuation during 1956 of the pink salmon restoration program in southeastern Alaska involving temporary closure of traps and extensive seine areas in the immediate vicinity of important salmon streams.

Ecuador.—This country's first national fishing congress was held at Quito under the auspices of the National Fishing Institute with the support of the Ecuadoran Government. The agenda included: (1) Maritime policing of fishing vessels; (2) Fishing chart for ocean patrols; (3) Regulation of the activities of foreign vessels in Ecuadoran waters; (4) Regulations for bait fishing; (5) A National Commission for fishing development; (6) Regulations for radio communications between land bases and vessels; (7) Documentation of foreign seamen serving on fishing vessels on the service of national companies.

Japan.—The fishery training ship "Shimane Maru," after carrying out its third cruise in Hawaiian waters, returned safely to its base at Misaki in Kanagawa Prefacture with a full load of over 180 tons of tuna. The catch was in good condition and brought $45,000. The ship now is making its fourth cruise in the Indian Ocean. There were 13 students aboard, from the industrial and fishery high schools of Shimane Prefecture. The Shimane Maru is expected to return to port late in April.

Japan.—The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission has announced that this year's atomic and hydrogen bomb tests will be held at Bikini and Eniwetok atolls from April 20 to the end of August, and as a safety precaution a danger area has been delimited in the North Pacific. In responce to this move the Federation of Japanese Tuna Fishermen's Associations which has been taking the line that "We want the Japanese government to make strong representations to the U.S. government to halt hydrogen bomb experiments in the Pacific," has set up a committee to appeal to public opinion to stop the tests and to appeal directly to American authorities.

Mexico.—During a recent press conference, the senator from the Campeche province of Mexico stated that most of the fishing by foreign boats off Campeche takes place outside the Mexican 9-mile jurisdictional limit. The Mexican Coast Guard has been instructed to maintain the 9-mile limit, and foreign ships fishing inside it will be apprehended and made subject to Mexican law, according to the Embassy. International practice permits foreign boats to seek haven in Mexican ports without violating the law in case of storms or distress. However, the Mexican Coast Guard is said to be intensifying its campaign against foreign fishing fleets in Mexican coastal waters, and it intends to acquire seaplanes for patrolling the Mexican coasts.

Peru.—The part of the Peruvian fishing industry engaged in the freezing of tuna for export was encouraged by a recent purchase of frozen tuna for export to West Germany. The possible expansion of the market for both frozen and canned tuna in Europe would help to offset the weaker market for these products in the United States, states a dispatch from the U.S. Embassy at Lima.

Russia.—The Soviet Union and Poland are conducting extensive fishing operations in the North Atlantic Ocean and the North Sea, according to Copenhagen reports. The Soviet Union has a fleet of 350 craft (mostly from Murmansk) with four large motherships.

The report states that the fishermen appear to be very competent and satisfied with their work. The crews include women on the mothership as cleaners and packers of the herring. Most of the vessels are new vessels built in Danish shipyards.

Russia.—The Soviet Union has moved to regulate and control salmon fishing in certain international waters of the Bering Sea and the Pacific Ocean. A ruling by the Council of Ministers established a fishing season for the area and declared that permits from the Soviet Ministry of Fish Industries are necessary before fish may be taken from the waters. The measures are aimed at Japanese fishermen whose netting of salmon during the spawning season has been described by the Russian press as "rapacious" and a threat to the economy of the Soviet Far East. In addition to issuing permits, the Russian authorities are "to inspect and control" fishing in the area.

The Chief of Japan's Fishing Board immediately responded that Japan will not recognize the restrictions Russia has placed on salmon fishing. He called the Russian act a violation of the basic principles of fishing in the open sea.

Salvador.—A Mexican shrimp fishing vessel recently was captured by a coastal patrol boat of the Salvadoran navy for allegedly fishing without a license in Salvadoran "territorial waters." The vessel was held pending payment of the initial fine of 5,000 colones (US$2,000) provided for a first offense in Article 18 of the new fishing law which sets forth stiff fines.

Insurance on Fishing Boats

(Continued from page 11)

—the personal factors—are just as important as the physical nature of the risk. The fact that the vessel will stay afloat is not enough.

Carelessness contributes to a risk and yet does not involve either business ethics or dishonesty. Other factors are poor seamanship and poor shipkeeping; carelessness in equipment maintenance; failure on the part of the captain, mate, and engineer to spend more time on safety matters in sessions with the crew, especially at the beginning of the fishing season; failure to train new men in the handling of the purse boat and other small auxiliary craft; maintaining the decks in bad condition; permitting overloaded or poorly insulated circuits; using gasoline in wood burning stoves to get fires going more quickly in cold weather; failure to check fuel tanks periodically against leaks; smoking in the engine room where a gas engine is in operation; discharging crankcase oil into the bilges, thus increasing the fire hazard; using all personnel on the vessel to help bring in the net, leaving no one on watch in the engine room; allowing drunks to get on board; venturing out too far looking for new fishing banks, considering the size of the vessel and its equipment; staying out until the last moment despite weather conditions, etc.

The Best Safety Device

Insurance requires good faith between the parties. The so-called Sue and Labor Clause which appears in every marine insurance policy means in substance that in dealing with an accident or with a loss, the insured vessel owner should act as if he were uninsured . . . cautious and careful. It has been said that the best safety device after all is a careful man. Insurance underwriters may be pleasurably excited by risks and chances taken in the movies or on television, but when they catch on to the fact that a policyholder of theirs has a habit of taking unnecessary chances, the show is over; they prefer to let him gamble with his own money and not with the insurance company's.

The life of a fisherman is a rough one. It draws courageous and self-confident men; rugged individualists who think of themselves as lone operators and able to handle any situation. Such men tend to be disdainful of precaution and often regard accident prevention procedures as a waste of time. Therefore, solving the insurance problem becomes for the fishing industry the problem of getting men with these character traits to observe safety precautions persistently and continuously.

What should be done to get vessel owners to maintain the vessel, its fixed equipment and safety equipment, in as good condition, let us say, as the fishing gear. What courses of action should be taken in an effort to reduce accidents and thereby the losses of insurance companies? Are corrective regulatory safety measures needed? What should be done to keep down court awards in personal injury actions by members of the crew?

One suggestion that has been made is that Congress should take fishermen out of the Jones Act and enact a fishermen's compensation act to parallel the workmen's compensation legislation that governs the amounts paid for death and injuries to workmen in industrial plants on shore. This would be a statutory approach to fixing a ceiling on amounts paid for death and injuries to fishermen.

Another method mentioned is that commercial fishing vessels should be made subject to Government construction and maintenance standards with periodic inspection and certification by recognized surveyors, and that sea-going personnel on fishing vessels should also be made subject to official qualification standards . . . seaworthy, equipped for safe navigation, with fire fighting apparatus and lifesaving gear, and properly manned. This course of action would have fishing vessels made subject to the same regulations, more or less, as passenger and cargo vessels.

At present, fishing vessels are subject only to the requirements of the Motorboat Act administered by the Coast Guard. These regulations are limited to requiring compliance with certain regulations concerning navigation lights, fire extinguishers and lifejackets; they have nothing to do with the design and construction of fishing craft. The inspections are not periodic but of a spot check character.

It may be of interest to refer briefly to the course of action other countries have taken in an effort to control accidents and losses on fishing vessels.

In Canada a fishing vessel in excess of 15 tons gross tonnage is subject to inspection of the hull, machinery and safety equipment in the manner set out in the Canada Shipping Act and Regulations thereunder.

In Great Britain, Lloyd's inspects and classifies the larger fishing vessels, for the purpose of fixing rates in accordance with type of hull structure, physical characteristics, etc. Unless a vessel is constructed in accordance with Lloyd's specifications for that particular class, insurance is unobtainable from a British insurer or prohibitively high. Thus the Government does not need to concern itself with fishing vessel classification or inspection certificates, except on fire fighting and lifesaving equipment.

Inspection Requirements

In the Netherlands, all fishing vessels except undecked vessels fishing within sight of the coast are subject to inspection and require a seaworthy certificate issued by the Shipping Inspection Service of the Ministry of Traffic and Public Works. New construction must be approved. General examination of hull, machinery, launching gear, radio, outboard fittings, and sea valves is required annually.

In Belgium all seagoing fishing vessels are subject to inspection. Certificates are good for one year.

To make changes without disrupting the industry it is best to gauge the rate of speed of change in such a way that the timing allows for three types of adjustment: (1) economic adjustment, that is absorption of the cost of safety equipment, etc.; (2) attitudinal adjustment, the effect on the habits and feelings of the people affected. To introduce suddenly and completely a large number of safety regulations would seem undesirable.

It appears that if ever laws extending inspection and safety requirements to fishing vessels would be adopted in this country, the system should be reasonable and have as its objective the retention of the buoyant equipment which the fishing industry now has while making it safer for the men. Corrective regulatory measures ought not to place an undue economic burden on the commercial fishing boat owner. Clearly, too, the details should be worked out in consultation with the fishing industry.

tom Fish
loratory Cruise

ommercial species of bottom fish found to be at a low level of dance in the Strait of Juan De at this season of the year, acing to results of a 24-day explorn by the *John N. Cobb*. This exatory vessel of the Fish and Wild- Service completed a total of 61 s on the American side of the t from February 15 to March 9,).

irty-eight otter trawl drags and eam trawl drags were made at hs from 44 to 149 fathoms ben Cape Flattery and Dungeness . Rough bottom caused considergear damage, as was expected, a number of places were found suitable trawling bottom which be more productive at other sea-

ost of the otter trawl catches were ominantly scrap fish (dogfish, sh, skates and turbot), totalling ral thousand pounds in some s. The largest catch was 4,500 nds per hour. Up to 350 pounds arge ling cod and 400 pounds of cod were taken with the otter l. Small numbers of rockfish, petrale sole, English sole, dover sole, and pollock were present in the catches.

Three species of commercial shrimp ("pinks," "side-stripes" and "spots") were taken in the beam trawl in very small quantities. Catches ranged from 1 to 31 pounds per 1-hour drag. Stomach analysis showed that the true cod were feeding heavily on pink shrimp. Although shrimp were found to be present over the entire area covered, no apparent concentrations were found.

Mexican Shrimp Increases

In a complete reversal of recent trends, the Mexican shrimp fishery in the Gulf of Baja California has made a most surprising comeback. During the latter part of 1953 and all of the 1954-55 season this fishery appeared to be declining at an alarming rate.

The extent of this decline was noted by the sharp decrease in imports from Mexico into Nogales, Ariz., during the 1954-55 season, which declined to 9,660,000 pounds or a decrease of approximately 50% as compared with the previous year.

Starting in October 1955 the Mexican shrimp fishery indicated a remarkable recovery, especially in the fishing areas along the east coast of the Gulf of California as far south as Mazatlan. Imports of frozen shrimp to January 22, 1956, cleared in the United States border town of Nogales, Ariz., were more than twice the volume as compared with the same weeks a year ago. At Nogales imports of frozen shrimp from September 1, 1955, through January 22, 1956, totaled 20,439,000 pounds as compared with 8,533,400 pounds during the same period a year ago.

Reports from importers of west coast Mexican shrimp in Los Angeles and San Diego indicate a very high rate of production in the Topolobampo Bay area. It is understood that catches in this part of the Gulf overtaxed the unloading facilities to the extent that many boats had to wait for two or three days before their shrimp could be unloaded. The size and quality of the shrimp catches has been good, with a heavy percentage of large white shrimp numbering under 20 a pound heads off.

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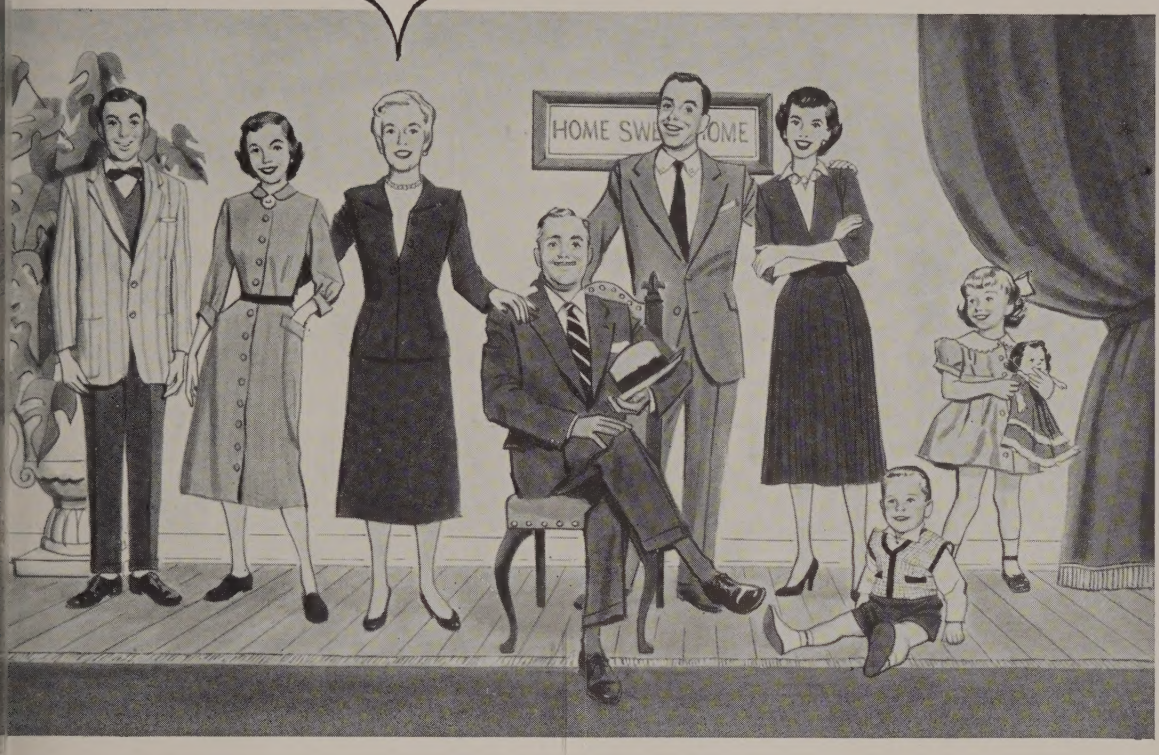

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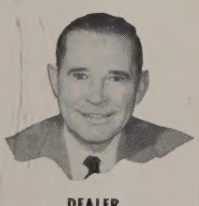
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